

5.08 Guidelines for Providing Drug/Substance Abuse Information and Referral

POLICY:

The Local Agency will provide drug and other harmful substance abuse information to all pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women and to parents/guardians of infants and children participating in the WIC Program.

DEFINITIONS:

Drug: A drug can be defined as a beverage containing alcohol, a controlled substance, or a controlled substance analogue.

Harmful Substance: A harmful substance is any other substance such as tobacco, prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications that can be harmful to the health of the pregnant woman and fetus.

PROCEDURE:

A. Required Information to be Provided

1. During the initial certification visit, the Competent Professional Authority (CPA) will provide information on drug/substance abuse.
 - a. The Local Agency outreach coordinator will maintain an updated list of services available.
 - b. A list of drug/substance abuse services will be provided on the back page of the WIC-approved vendor list.
 - c. The CPA will document in the **STORC Nutrition Education Screen** that information on drug/substance abuse was given at initial certification by entering Topic Code 53-SPECIFY: Information given.
2. A display of the USDA/FNS poster and brochure entitled “Pregnant? Drugs and Alcohol Can Hurt Your Unborn Baby,” Program Aid Number 1469, October 1990, must be posted in WIC clinic settings for all participants and applicants to read.

A. Referral to Drug/Substance Abuse Clinics

1. Participants with suspected drug problems are to be offered the opportunity for referral to drug/substance abuse clinics, treatment programs, counselors, or other drug abuse professionals.
2. The referral will be documented in the **STORC Food Prescription Screen**.

REFERENCES:

1. WIC Regulations 246.11, Nutrition Education
2. USDA, A Study of Appropriate Methods of Drug Abuse Education for Use in the WIC Program, 1990.